



News Release

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Gold Medal Schools Program Moves Forward *Schools honored for improvements*

Salt Lake City, UT -- For the last 10 years, Gold Medal Schools (GMS) has helped Utah students eat better, get active, and avoid tobacco through school policy and environmental changes. During that time, 382 elementary schools across the state have participated in the Program. This year, 81 schools improved their performance and reached a new level of achievement. They'll be rewarded for their efforts with monetary prizes.

"We're excited that GMS has been able to help schools implement healthy behaviors and changes in their environments," said Sarah Roundy, GMS Program Coordinator.

"Schools are eager to take that step forward and give students the opportunities to make the healthy choice the easy choice," she added.

Awards range from \$200 to \$1,000, depending on the level the school achieved. The levels include Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum Focus. The award money is used by the schools to help create a healthful environment for students, teachers, faculty and staff, and the community.

For a list of schools that received awards, or information about the Program, please visit www.health.utah.gov/gms

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The mission of the Utah Department of Health is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability and premature death, assuring access to affordable, quality health care, and promoting healthy lifestyles.